

M I L F O R D H A V E N
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1954.

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Preface to the Report

District Health Office,
County Offices,
Haverfordwest.

September, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I present my Report upon matters affecting the Health of the District for the year 1954.

There was a decrease of 100 in the estimated population over the preceding year. For the six previous years there had been an increase in population.

The Birth-rate continues to be high in relation to the County and National Rates. There was some reduction in Still Births over the preceding year, but the Still Birth Rate is still higher than County and National Rates. There is a challenge here to all associated with ante-natal and natal care. The Illegitimate Birth Rate has risen to a new post-war record. The causes of this might be a basis for a social study. The numbers of Illegitimate births appear to be higher in the urban districts than in rural areas.

There was a rise in the General Death Rate over the preceding year. The rate, however, is reasonably satisfactory as compared with the County and National Rate.

Turning to the specific groups of deaths, it will be seen that although the Cancer Death Rate has continued to rise, the rate for the District compares favourably with the National Rate. More than this cannot be expected. More widespread education in regard to Cancer is being advocated, and several bodies have produced educational literature. This may help to some extent, but until the fundamental cause or causes are clearly understood, no real improvement can be expected. The Infant Mortality Rate is substantially the same as for the County as a whole, but is appreciably greater than the National Rate. This is a challenge to all associated with child and maternal welfare. It will be noted that six out of the Infant Deaths were due to prematurity. Violent deaths showed a large decrease over the preceding year. The majority of Violent deaths are accidental, and could have possibly been avoided. The main causes of fatal home accidents are appended to this Report and will repay close study.

Apart from an outbreak of Food Poisoning, the list of notifiable diseases reflect a low incidence of Infectious Disease. The outbreak of Food Poisoning is more fully discussed in the appropriate section of the Report. No case of Diphtheria has been notified since 1947. The number of deaths attributable to Infectious Diseases during the year was exceptionally small.

It is pleasing to report an appreciable decrease in the number of fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year. There has been some concern, generally, throughout the country regarding the increase of fresh cases of Tuberculosis. This, however, is not necessarily a bad sign. It probably means that more cases are being detected by modern methods.

It is better to have these cases discovered, rather than they should remain hidden and hence a greater danger to the spread of the disease. I feel that the powers of local authorities are not comprehensive enough to limit the spread of Tuberculosis. Stricter quarantine of sputum-positive cases is required, if any appreciable decrease in incidence is to be expected. There was also a reduction in the number of deaths due to Tuberculosis in the district during the year. The Tuberculosis Mortality Rate however, is still a little higher than the National Rate.

The milk supplied in the District showed a high standard of cleanliness. The number of dwelling units constructed was considerably lower than for the previous year. The Housing programme, however, generally speaking, is meeting the demand. The future housing programme will have to take into account re-housing necessary from Slum Clearance areas, in addition to the normal demand for re-housing.

The water supply continues to be satisfactory, both in quality and quantity.

The return of private slaughtering has brought additional work upon the Public Health Department.

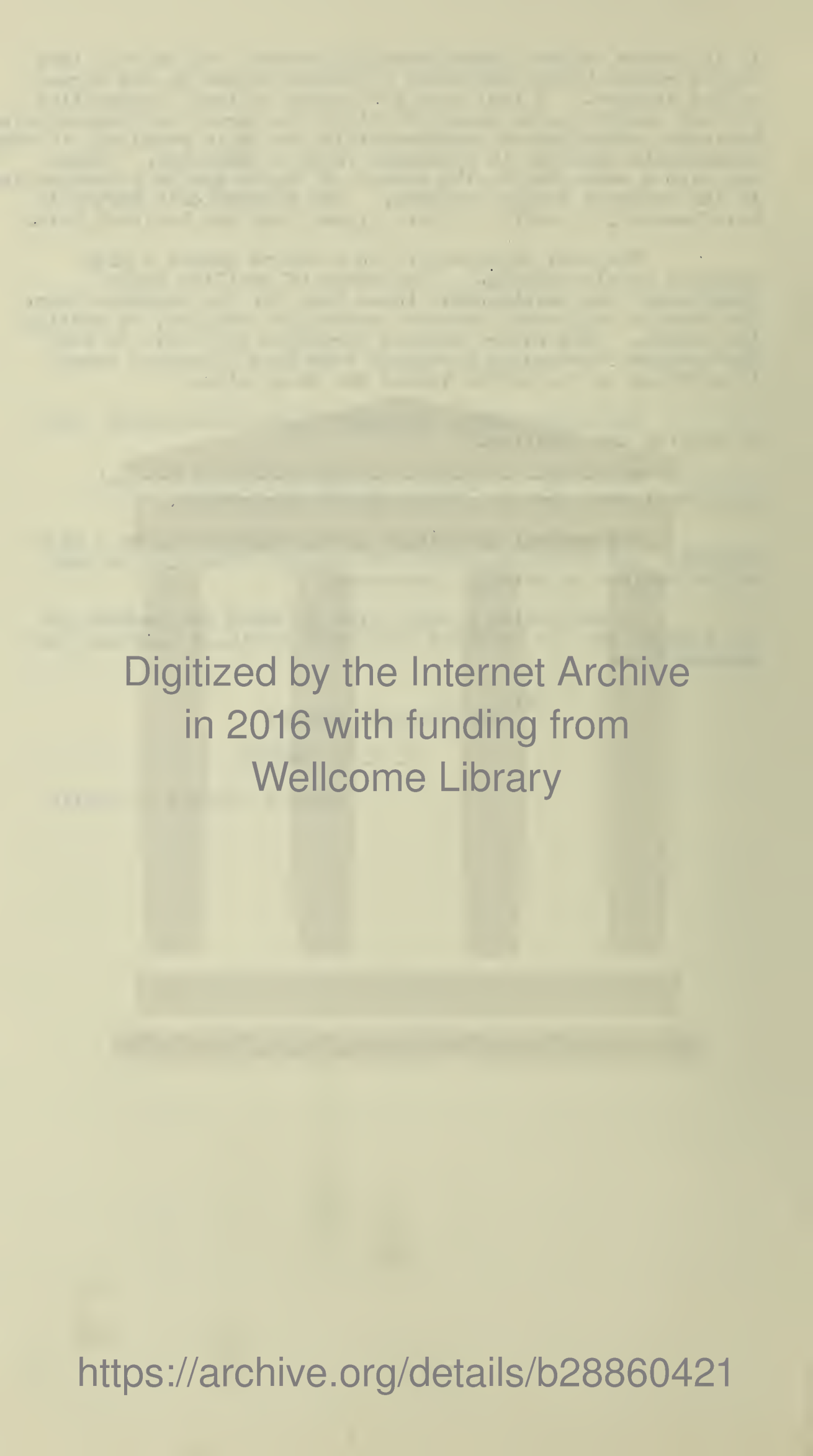
The general Sanitation of the District is of a high standard, and is maintained by the routine attention to duty of the various departments concerned.

In conclusion I would like to thank the members of the Council and the Officers for their continued courtesy and co-operation.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

W. J. Y. SPEEDY

Medical Officer of Health



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CHIEF OFFICIALS OF THE COUNCIL

	<u>Date of Appointments.</u>
<u>Clerk</u> H. L. Howarth, M.B.E., A.I.M.T.A.	1st February, 1934
<u>Deputy Clerk</u> A. H. Jackson	1st April, 1946
<u>Engineer</u> A. Moody, M.B.E., B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., A.M.I.W.E.	2nd February, 1942
<u>Deputy Engineer</u> S. Jones, B.Sc.(Wales), A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E.	10th April, 1945
<u>Sanitary Inspector</u> A. N. B. Avery, M.R.S.H. . M.S.I.A.	1st December, 1951
<u>Deputy Accountant</u> K. J. Warburton, A.C.I.S.	1st January, 1950
<u>Medical Officer</u> W. J. Y. Speedy, M.B., B.CH.L.R.C.P & S. D.P.H.	1st October, 1947

CONSTITUTION OF RELEVANT COMMITTEES 1954-55.

Chairman of the Council Mr. Councillor H. M. Kingston

Vice Chairman of the Council Mr. Councillor V. J. Lewis

Public Health Committee -

Chairman

Members

Mr. Councillor F. D. G. Jones

Mr. Councillor E. H. Gough

" " H. M. Kingston

" " J. Lewis

" " J. A. Lewis

" " V. J. Lewis

" " F. G. Smedley

Housing Committee -

Chairman

Members

Mr. Councillor J. Lewis

Mr. Councillor E. H. Gough

" " F. D. G. Jones

" " H. M. Kingston

" " J. A. Lewis

" " V. J. Lewis

" " F. G. Smedley

Water Committee -

Chairman

Members

Mr. Councillor L. J. Meyler

Mr. Councillor E. H. Gough

" " H. M. Kingston

" " F. D. G. Jones

" " J. A. Lewis

" " W. R. Miners

" " W. H. Symmons

P A R T I.

VITAL STATISTICS

AND

EPIDEMIOLOGY

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954.

Population (estimate mid-year)	11,760	
National Increase in population	+101	
Crude Birth Rate	18.4	(a)
Corrected Birth Rate	19.1	(a)
Still Birth Rate	40.0	(c)
Illegitimate Birth Rate	55.5	(b)
Crude Death Rate	9.7	(a)
Corrected Death Rate	12.9	(a)
Infantile Mortality Rate	32.4	(b)
Maternal Mortality Rate	Nil	
Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.2	(a)
Cancer Death Rate	1.9	(a)
Notification Rate of Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.9	(a)

- (a) Per 1,000 of population
(b) Per 1,000 Live Births
(c) Per 1,000 Live and Still Births

BIRTHS & BIRTH RATES

Classification of Births

	<u>Live Births</u>			<u>Still Births</u>		
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	104	101	205	3	5	8
Illegitimate	7	4	11	1	-	1
	111	105	216	4	5	9

Total live births & Still Births for 1954	=	225
Live Births	=	216
Still Births	=	9
Illegitimate Births	=	12

The number of Male births exceeded the number of females. This has been the rule except for the years 1949 and 1951.

General Birth Rates

Crude Birth Rate for the District for 1954	=	18.4/1000	population
Corrected Birth Rate " " " "	=	19.1	" "
Crude Birth Rate for Pembrokeshire for 1954	=	16.7	" "
Corrected " " " "	=	17.3	" "
Birth Rate for England & Wales for 1954	=	15.2	" "

The Birth Rate for the District was considerably higher than for the preceding year, and is much higher than the Rates for the County and for England and Wales.

The Birth Rate in the District has been consistently high since 1948 and has not varied more than 1.0 per 1000 of population.

Still Births.

Still Birth Rate for District for 1954	=	40.0/1000	total Births
" " " " Pembrokeshire for 1954	=	25.1	" "
" " " " England & Wales for 1954	=	24.0	" "

The Still Birth Rate for the District decreased a little over the preceding year. The Rate however is still considerably higher than the Rates for the County and for England and Wales.

Apart from the year 1951 the Still Birth Rate in the District has been consistently high. This is a challenge to all associated with ante-natal and natal care.

Illegitimate Births

Illegitimate Birth Rate for District for 1954	=	55.5/1000	live births
" " " " Pembrokeshire for 1954	=	39.9	" "
" " " " England and Wales for 1954	=	46.0	" "

The Illegitimate Birth Rate for the District was considerably higher than for the preceding year, and much higher than the Rate for the County and England and Wales.

The Illegitimate Birth Rate has been consistently high in the past. There was a decrease to the low Rate of 26.1 in 1950. But in 1951 the Rate had risen to 49. There was a small decrease in 1952 and 1953, but the present Rate has risen to a new record.

DEATHS & DEATH RATES

Classification of Deaths

The following were the chief causes of deaths:-

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Diseases of Heart & Circulatory System	24	16	40
Cancer (all forms)	9	14	23
Diseases of Brain & Nervous System	8	8	16
" " Respiratory System	4	1	5
" " Kidneys & Urinary System	3	2	5
" " Digestive System	1	2	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	-	3
Congenital Malformations	1	2	3
Violent Deaths	2	1	3
Specific Infectious Disease	1	-	1
Diabetes	-	1	1
Unclassified	7	5	12
	63	52	115

The deaths amongst males was considerably higher than amongst females. This preponderance amongst males has been in force since 1947, with the exception of the year 1948 when there were two more female deaths than male.

Deaths according to age-groups.

0 - 1 years of age	= 7	30 - 50 years of age	= 15
1 - 15 " " "	= 1	50 - 70 " " "	= 41
15 - 30 " " "	= 2	70 + " " "	= 52

General Death Rates

Crude Death Rate for District for 1954	= 9.7/1000 population
Corrected " " " " " "	= 12.9 " "
Crude Death Rate for Pembrokeshire for 1954	= 12.65 " "
Corrected " " " " " "	= 12.40 " "
General Death Rate for England & Wales	
for 1954	= 11.3 " "

The Death Rate for the District has arisen somewhat over the preceding year. This can be partly accounted for by the relatively large number of deaths in females due to Cancer and Diseases of Brain and Nervous System.

Infant Mortality

Infant Mortality Rate for District for 1954	= 32.4/1000 Live Births
" " " " Pembrokeshire	
for 1954	= 32.2 " " "
" " " " England & Wales	
for 1954	= 25.5 " " "

The Infant Mortality Rate has increased somewhat over the preceding year and is higher than the National Rate. It compares favourably however with the rate for Pembrokeshire as a whole.

All of the Infant Deaths took place in the first week of life, i.e. neo-natal period. 6 out of the 7 Infant Deaths were due to prematurity.

Cancer Mortality.

Cancer Mortality Rate for District for 1954 = 1.9/1000 population
" " " " England and Wales
for 1954 = 2.0 " "

The Cancer Mortality Rate has again risen after a fall in the preceding year. The Rate however is not as high as the National Rate, and to this extent must be deemed reasonably satisfactory.

The sites affected by Cancer deaths were as follows :-

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Stomach & Intestines	6	6	12
Lungs	2	1	3
Uteries	-	3	3
Breast	-	1	1
Digestive Organs	-	1	1
Unclassified	1	2	3
	9	14	23

Deaths according to age groups :-

0 - 30 years of age	= Nil
30 - 50 " " "	= 5
50 - 70 " " "	= 9
70 + " " "	= 9

Tuberculosis Mortality.

See separate section.

Violent Deaths.

The following is a classification of the Violent Deaths.

	<u>Home Accidents</u>	<u>Suicide</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 - 15 years of age	-	-	-
15 - 70 " " "	1	-	1
70 + " " "	-	2	2
	1	2	3

There was a large decrease in the number of violent deaths over the preceding year. It will be noted that there were no deaths from road or vehicle accidents.

The chief causes of fatal home accidents are given at Appendix (b) to this Report.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Incidence.

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year :-

Food Poisoning	= 18
Pneumonia	= 17
Whooping Cough	= 7
Measles	= 2
Poliomyelitis	= 1

This represents a low incidence of infectious disease.

The outbreak of food poisoning at the Grammar School accounted for the 18 cases mentioned in the list. The cause was attributed to zinc due to contamination of potatoes which were boiled in a galvanised container. The illness was of a mild nature, and all affected fully recovered within a short time.

Mortality.

The following deaths from infectious diseases occurred during the year :-

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Syphilis	1	-	1
Pneumonia	1	-	1
	2	-	2

This shows a large reduction over the previous year (11 deaths)

TUBERCULOSIS.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Incidence.

The following fresh cases were notified during the year :-

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 - 15 years	-	-	-
15 - 30 "	2	-	2
30 - 50 "	2	2	4
50 + "	4	1	5
	8	3	11

Notification rate for Pulmonary T.B. for District
for 1954 = 0.9/1000 Population
Notification rate for Pulmonary T.B. for
Pembrokeshire for 1954 = 0.7 " "
Notification rate for Pulmonary T.B. for
England and Wales for 1954 =

There was a considerable decrease in the number of fresh cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year which is a welcome sign.

Mortality.

Pulmonary T.B. Mortality Rate for District
for 1954 = 0.2/1000 Population
Pulmonary T.B. Mortality Rate for
Pembrokeshire for 1954 = 0.2 " "
Pulmonary T.B. Mortality Rate for
England and Wales for 1954 = 0.16 " "

There was a further reduction during the year in the number of deaths from Tuberculosis and in the mortality Rate. This Rate is now only slightly higher than the National Rate.

Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Two fresh cases were notified and there were no deaths. This may be compared with one fresh case and one death for the preceding year.

P A R T I I

ENVIRONMENTAL H Y G I E N E

MILK SUPPLIES

Milk Suppliers (Distributors)

	<u>Designated</u>		<u>Ungraded</u>	
	<u>Raw.</u>	<u>Past.</u>	<u>Raw.</u>	<u>Past.</u>
Producers - Retailers	1	-	2	-
Retailers only	2	7	1	-

In addition there are two Producer-Wholesalers in the District of ungraded milk.

General Statistics.

No. of Inspections of dairies in 1954	= 24
No. of Vendors resigned from register	= 1
No. of Vendors admitted to Register	= 1

It was not found necessary to issue any warning letters during the year.

Sampling.

1. The scheme for the general bacteriological sampling (methylene blue test) was continued during the year. The Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen, carried out the examinations and made the reports.

The following is a summary of sampling results for the year :-

Satisfactory	= 58 samples (88%)
Doubtful	= 1 " (2%)
Unsatisfactory	= 7 " (10%)
Total	= 66 "

There was a considerable increase in the number of satisfactory samples over the preceding year. The present figures indicate a high standard of hygiene in the production and handling of milk.

In addition ten samples of School milks were taken for examination, and results forwarded to School Medical Officer.

2. It was not found necessary to take any biological (special bacteriological) samples during the year.

3. No bottle rinsings from bottling establishment were taken during the year.

4. The control of Pasteurised milk is the responsibility of the Food & Drugs Authority, i.e. the Pembroke County Council. They supervise the efficiency of pasteurisation plant by routine samples subjected to the phosphatase test.

HOUSING.

Council's Building Programmes - completed.

A. Prior to 31st December 1945 (pre-war)

Traditional Brick House	312
-------------------------	-----

B. From 1st January 1946 to 31st December 1954 (post-war)

1946 - Prefabricated Bungalows		77
1947 - " "	25	
Traditional Houses	104	
B.I.S.F. "	<u>71</u>	200
1948 - Traditional Houses	96	
B.I.S.F. "	<u>27</u>	123
1949 - Traditional Houses	69	
Flats	<u>2</u>	71
1950 - Traditional Houses		105
1951 - " "		90
1952 - " "		88
1953 - " "	35	
Unity Houses	<u>100</u>	135
1954 - Traditional Houses	32	
Unity Houses	32	
Old Person's Flats	4	
Maisonettes	<u>4</u>	72
Total		1,273

Council's Building Programme - uncompleted.

No. of houses under construction on 31st Dec. 1954	=	84
No. of houses to be completed during 1955	=	168

Council's Future Building Programme.

Applications for Traditional Houses (31st Dec. 1954)

Subsidised	310	
Non-subsidised	<u>22</u>	332

Applications for Old Persons Bungalows. Flats etc. (31st Dec. 1954)	161
---	-----

Estimated number of families to be rehoused in the future as a result of Clearance and Demolitions -

Houses	}	80
Bungalows and Flats	}	

Allowing for the dwellings to be completed during 1955, the housing need for the future is estimated at : -

Traditional Houses	}	400
Bungalows and Flats	}	

Temporary Hutments & Requisitioned Premises.

NIL.

Non-Council Buildings. Controlled by the Council.

The Council has pursued a policy of purchasing privately owned houses, including a number of sub-standard houses.

The following is a summary of these houses now under Council control:-

Private & other Buildings.

5 Privately built houses were completed during the year.

2 Police houses were completed during the year.

Repairs. Inspections. Demolitions. etc.

No. of intimation Notices served during the year 1954	= 43
No. of statutory " " " " " "	= 9
No. of cases taken to court " " " "	= Nil
No. of Time & Place Notices " " " "	= Nil
No. of Demolition Orders made " " " "	= Nil
No. of Demolition Orders not fulfilled at 31/12/54	= Nil

Clearance Areas.

During the year under review, the Council has dealt with two clearance areas under the Housing Act, 1936 as amended by the Housing Act, 1949. Both clearance areas were situated in Point Street.

The first area known as Point Street No.1 Clearance Area, 1954 comprised seven properties including one shop and three vacant dwelling houses. This scheme entailed the rehousing of four families numbering nineteen persons.

The Point Street No.2 Clearance Area, 1954 consisted of nineteen properties including a lock-up garage and two houses which were in a state of ruin. Four dwellings in this scheme were unoccupied. Thirteen families were re-housed as a result of this clearance area and forty-four persons were involved.

The properties in these two areas will soon be cleared and the site will be used for industrial development.

A survey of the district has been commenced in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Rents and Repairs Act, 1954, to ascertain the number of sub-standard properties which should be scheduled for demolition. Groups of houses in the Court, Lower Hill Street, Manchester Square and Dartmouth Street should be included in clearance areas whilst a number of cottages at Blackbridge, Coombs Road, Old Dockyard and some properties on the outskirts of the town should be treated as individual unfit houses ripe for clearance within the next five years.

Overcrowding.

One hundred and twenty families were re-housed by the Council during the year. Seventy-nine cases of overcrowding were relieved during the year, including nineteen families moved from two bedroom houses and prefabricated bungalows and three families moved from three bedroom Council houses to larger privately built houses purchased by the Council.

There is little statutory overcrowding existing in the town, but some ninety-six cases of bedroom overcrowding existed at 31st December, 1954.

Housing Grants and Loans.

Nine improvement grants were made during the year to owner/occupiers.

Thirty-nine loans were issued for house purchase.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Sources of Supply

Major Supply Scheme.

The source of the major water supply to Milford Haven is the Prescelly Gathering Ground in North East Pembrokeshire. The water is a typical upland surface water, being soft and rather acid. It is impounded in a Reservoir of 160,000,000 gallons capacity.

After impounding the water passes through a modern filtration and chlorination plant. The quality of the water is controlled by routine sampling, both chemical and bacteriological before and after treatment.

Supplementary Supply Scheme.

Springs in the Thornton Area (Haverfordwest R.D.C.) are impounded in the three reservoirs with a total effective capacity of 16,000,000 gallons.

The water gravitates to a purification plant at Priory, and is pumped from here to service reservoirs at the Meads.

This water is chiefly used for industrial purposes, under drought conditions or other failure of the Prescelly supply.

Sampling.

At Source Level.

Routine samples are taken at Prescelly, both before and after treatment for bacteriological and chemical examination. This is arranged between the Engineer to the Prescelly Water Board and the County Analyst.

Samples taken before treatment show a varying amount of contamination which is to be expected from a large exposed gathering ground. Samples after treatment, however, are consistently satisfactory.

At Consumer Level.

As an additional safeguard the sampling scheme at Consumer level was continued during the year, the results of sampling were as follows:-

Satisfactory	= 14 samples
Doubtful	= 4 "
Unsatisfactory	= Nil
Total	= 18 "

General.

There is practically a 100% piped water supply in the District. There are only 18 premises without a piped supply.

Average daily amount of water used in District	
in 1954	= 635,000 gallons
Gallons per head of population per day	
(average)	= 53 gallons
Storage capacity of treated water in the	
District	= 1,700,000 gallons

FOOD CONTROL.

Premises Registered under Food & Drugs Act.

Ice-cream premises	43
Prepared Food premises	17
Slaughterhouses	1
Knackers Yards	Nil

Foodstuffs Condemned

	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>Ozs.</u>
Lamb	210	-
Tinned Ham	141	1
Bacon	35	10
Tinned gammon	14	8
Ham	47	4
Gammon	6	8
Tinned minced beef loaf	15	12
Luncheon sausage	25	-
Tinned luncheon sausage	4	-
Tinned luncheon meat	6	12
Tinned stewed steak	3	-
Tinned corned beef	30	-
Tinned lambs tongues	1	-
Pork sausage	94	4
Tinned ox tongue	12	-
Steak and Kidney pies (18)		
Pork pies (13)		
Savoury ducks (10)		
Bath chaps	5	4
Aislet	7	8
Ham and tongue	33	-
Tinned Muligatawny soup	1	-
Tinned Irish stew	1	-
Tinned salmon	3	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Tinned pilchards	2	-
Tinned crawfish		6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned sild		3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tinned apricots	25	-
Tinned bilberries	4	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned pineapples	2	4
Tinned plums	160	5
Tinned damsons	8	15
Tinned grapefruit	5	-
Tinned tomatoes	127	11
Tinned oranges		8
Tinned blackcurrants	14	8
Tinned strawberries	1	13
Tinned raspberries		10
Tinned peaches	28	-
Tinned apples	31	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned pineapple jam	1	-
Tinned peas	27	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned beans	16	8
Tinned syrup	2	-
Tinned, condensed and evaporated milk (Equivalent 54 pints)		
Cheese	23	-
Packet Milbox toast		4
Small chocolate wafers(10)		.
Small chocolate marshmallows (5)		.
Packets puff pastry	3	-

Ice-Cream Supplies.

(a) Summary of vendors :-

Number of Producers only	2
Number of producer retailers in the district	4
Number of retailers only in the district	37

(b) General Statistics.

Number of inspections of premises and equipment	78
Number of Informal Notices served	Nil
Number of Formal Notices served	Nil

(c) Sampling

General Bacteriological

Grade I	(Highly satisfactory)	10	(12.8%)
Grade II	(Satisfactory)	55	(70.5%)
Grade III	(Doubtful)	12	(15.4%)
Grade IV	(Unsatisfactory)	<u>1</u>	(1.3%)
Total		<u>78</u>	

The sampling results continue to indicate a high standard of cleanliness in the production and handling of ice cream.

Prepared Food Premises.

Sausage, meat pies and brawn etc.	8
Fried fish shops	9

Forty-seven visits were made and a satisfactory standard of hygiene has been maintained.

Slaughtering of Animals & Meat Inspection.

One slaughterhouse, situated at the back of Cronwell Road and owned by Messrs. James Bros. is licensed.

This slaughterhouse was used for the first time last August, since meat control commenced in October, 1939.

The premises had deteriorated greatly through lack of maintenance during the war years.

However, upon the announcement that meat was to be decontrolled, the owners set about the problem of not only repairs, but modernising and improving the slaughterhouse, and last August slaughtering was resumed in premises in which a separate cooling hall has been provided and suitable premises for dealing with the ancillary processes arising from slaughtering. In addition improved lairage accommodation has been provided.

An adequate and wholesome water supply from the town mains has replaced the well used in pre-war days.

The outstanding problem is the abolition of the existing cesspit and the connection of drains to the sewer. However, this problem should be solved on completion of the Priory sewerage scheme.

Animals slaughtered five and sometimes six days a week, and daily visits are made to inspect all meat intended for human consumption.

Since last August, the following meat and offal has been found to be unfit for human consumption :-

125 lbs.	beef
6	sheeps legs
2½ lbs.	leg of lamb
4	sheeps shoulders
1	ox head
10	ox livers
19	part ox livers
1	ox lung
9	pigs heads
2	pigs lungs
3	pigs livers
16	sheeps livers
5	sheeps lungs

Bakeries and Bakehouses.

Five bakeries are operated in the town, viz.

Mr. J. P. Hall	Brooke Avenue
Mr. W. Griffiths & Son	Albion Street
Mr. R. J. Edmonds	St. Davids Road
Messrs. Osborne & Perkins	The Dingle
Mr. I. Lawrence	Waterloo Road

Twenty visits were made during the year and one informal notice was served and complied with, requiring the limewashing of walls.

Cafes, Hotels, Restaurants.

There are eight cafes, six hotels, two restaurants and two canteens in the district.

Sixty-eight visits were made during the year. The general standard of hygiene continues to be satisfactory.

Food Shops

There are seventy-three retail food shops in the area, including ten butchers, eight fruit and vegetable shops and ten shops which retail confectionery only.

The six multiple stores have adequate hand washing facilities and sanitary accommodation for their staffs. The majority of the small retail shops are family businesses and the domestic sanitary accommodation serves the shop as well. Generally speaking, the standard of food handling in the district is satisfactory.

Mineral Waters.

One Mineral Water Factory, known as the Regent Mineral Water Factory, owned by Messrs. W. L. Thomas and Sons is situated in the Urban area at Pill. The building is of corrugated iron structure and has a concrete floor. An adequate and wholesome water supply is available from the main public supply. The manufacturing plant is of the type supplied by Messrs. Barnet and Foster and the filler and crowner machine is capable of dealing with eighty dozen bottles per hour.

The bottles are thoroughly washed in a large tank of water containing detergents and are then mechanically rinsed with clean water.

The general cleanliness of personnel employed is satisfactory, water closets and hand washing facilities are available for the staff.

Bottle Rinsings.

Nil to report.

Food Poisoning.

An outbreak of mild food poisoning occurred in the Grammar School during December, 1954. The outbreak was attributed to Zinc contamination of potatoes. A full report on the outbreak was forwarded to the County School Medical Officer.

No other cases were notified during the year.

Factories & Workshops.

There are 69 premises in the district within the scope of the Factories & Workshops Act. 156 inspections of these premises were made during the year.

Eight defects were found and after notice were rectified. Reports consisted of lack of cleanliness and insufficient sanitary accommodation.

One case was referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories. No cases were referred to H.M. Inspector, nor were there any prosecutions.

There are 16 registered outworkers, all connected with net making.

P A R T I I I

G E N E R A L S A N I T A T I O N

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is collected weekly from all private dwellings and business premises within the urban district and is disposed of by controlled tipping at Priory Tipping Site. Three Karrier Bantam vehicles (each 7 cu.yds. capacity) are used for refuse and salvage collections. One of the vehicles will shortly be replaced by a Ford 10 cu.yds. refuse collector.

The refuse tip at Priory, together with acquisitioned surrounding land, should provide tipping facilities for the next nineteen years or so. However, it might be expedient for the Health Committee to consider the acquisition of a suitable area in Hakin so that all Hakin refuse can be disposed of in that area, thus reducing the haulage distance.

Sewage Disposal.

It is estimated that about 98% of the premises in the urban area are connected to the public sewer.

The parts not served are -

Cromwell Road (North Side) and Lower Priory	Approx. 40 houses
Coombs and Cellar Hill	" 12 "
Section of Steynton Road	" 16 "
Gellyswick	" 6 "

34 premises in the area are served with cesspits.

4 premises in the area are served with chemical and pail closets.

Work on the sewerage scheme at Cromwell Road is well under way and it is hoped that during the next year, considerable progress will have been made in abolishing the pail closets and substituting water closets in the Cromwell Road and Lower Priory area.

Sewage from this area will be disposed of by a temporary septic tank situated at Lower Priory designed for later conversion to a pumping station and the effluent will discharge into Goosepill.

This scheme will result in the abolition of the septic tank which takes the sewage from the Council houses in Cromwell Road and Priory Road.

Rodent Control.

Summary of rodent treatments carried out during year

		<u>Number of Treatments</u>	<u>Actual Kill</u>	<u>Estimated Kill</u>
Refuse Tip	Major	4	152	1,118
	Minor	-	-	-
Dock Premises	Major	8	107	264
	Minor	6	42	72
Ships	Major	-	-	-
	Minor	7	50	66
Business Premises	Major	5	68	194
	Minor	17	78	198
	Major	3	72	89
	Mice			
	Minor	4	34	48
Private Premises	Major	4	26	86
	Minor	311	1,231	2,722
	Major	-	-	-
	Mice			
	Minor	26	192	250
		<u>395</u>	<u>2,052</u>	<u>5,107</u>

Sewers.

Sewers were treated for rodent infestation in June when 380 manholes were baited, and December when 138 manholes were baited. Forty-one bodies were recovered and there was an estimated kill of 572.

One full time rodent operative is employed by the Council to carry out surveys and treatments for rodent infestation. Poisons used are zinc phosphide, arsenious oxide and warfarin.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

Burials.

One person was buried by the Council under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Camping and Caravan Sites.

No official camping sites exist within the area, however it is hoped to provide an official site at Gellyswick in the near future. During the year three licences in accordance with Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 were issued in respect of two caravans at Eastleigh Drive Field and one at Hubberston Fort. In both places water closets and water supply are available.

Salvage.

Salvage is collected weekly from private dwellings and business premises in the district.

The following materials were salvaged during the year :-

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrts.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>:</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>:</u>	<u>d</u>
Mixed waste paper	97	12	2	16	638	:	9	:	8
Books	7	2	1	24	61	:	8	:	2
Newspapers	12	8	3	13	124	:	6	:	8
	117	4	-	25	824	:	4	:	6
Tins	4	16	1	-	15	:	15	:	2
Iron	1	3	2	-	3	:	10	:	6
Aluminium	-	-	-	12			4	:	0
	5	19	3	12	19	:	9	:	8
Textiles	2	1	2	-	20	:	15	:	0
Total income from salvage					£864	:	9	:	2

There was a slight increase in the weight of salvage collected over the previous year.

Disinfestation and Disinfection.

Eight bedrooms were fumigated after removal of persons suffering from infectious diseases.

Public Conveniences.

In addition to the public conveniences at Spikes Lane, Market Square and North Road, conveniences were provided on the Rath and at Gellyswick, the provision of the last mentioned conveniences enabled the authority to dispense with the crude bucket latrines which had been used at Gellyswick during previous summer seasons.

Apart from the all purpose conveniences already mentioned, two urinals for males are situated at Point Street and Victoria Hill.

Licensed Premises.

Thirty-three licensed premises cater for the district. The general standard of cellar management is satisfactory and during the past few years the brewers have concentrated on improving the toilet arrangements.

Mortuaries.

One modern fully equipped mortuary is situated in Dartmouth Gardens.

Public Baths.

An open-air swimming pool is situated on the Rath. The water is pumped from the Haven and is filtered and chlorinated.

Public Halls and Cinemas.

The two cinemas operating in the town and the three public halls have separate sanitary accommodation for both sexes.

General Nuisances.

Number of informal notices served for general nuisances	42
Number of informal notices complied with	42
Number of statutory notices served for general nuisances	Nil
Number of statutory notices complied with	Nil
Number of cases taken to court	Nil

Smoke abatement

Nil to report

Exhumations

Nil to report

APPENDICES

1. Mass Radiography
2. Main causes of Home Accidents

Miniature Mass Radiography

Western Districts - Pembrokeshire Sept.-Oct. 1954.

Attendance by Age Groups

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 15 years	581	587	1,168
15 - 24 "	441	805	1,246
25 - 34 "	435	589	1,024
35 - 44 "	404	407	811
45 - 59 "	329	390	719
60 + "	108	118	226
Depots unclassified	2,298	2,896	5,194
			<u>1,077</u>
Grand Total			<u>6,271</u>

Milford Haven.

Miniature Mass Radiography

General Population and Schoolchildren Sept. 1954

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total attendance	798	1,036	1,834 (1,683)
Total abnormal	55	46	101
Pulmonary Tuberculosis :-			
1. Definite cases	Nil	Nil	Nil
2. Requiring further investigation	7	5	12
3. Healed T.B.	14	9	23
Other Chest Abnormalities:-			
1. Bony abnormality	11	18	29
2. Bronchitis and Emphysema	11	6	17
3. Bronchiectasis	4	3	7
4. Pneumoconiosis	3	-	3
5. Basal Fibrosis	2	-	2
6. Pleural Thickening	2	1	3
7. Thyroid Disease	-	2	2
8. Heart Disease	1	1	2
9. Unclassified	-	1	1

HOME SAFETY

There are approximately 2,000,000 accidents in the home each year of all kinds. Over 7,000 of these are fatal, and a great many more cause serious suffering and disability. The majority of accidents affect the aged (50% of age of 65 years) and the young (25% under 15 years).

The following is a classification of the major categories of Home Accidents :-

Falls	= 58%
Burns & Scalds	= 13%
Suffocation	= 12%
Coal Gas Poisoning	= 8%
Others	= 9%
Total	=100%

Falls.

The following are some of the causes of falls in the home -

1. Bad lighting, both artificial and natural.
2. Unsound or unsafe stairs and flooring
3. Highly polished surfaces.
4. Small changes in levels at doorways, halls etc.
5. Elderly people standing on chairs etc. to carry out minor repairs or alterations (or putting up decorations).

Burns & Scalds.

The following are some of the causes of accidents due to burns and scalds -

1. Unguarded fires (Infants)
2. Unswept chimneys.
3. Pots and pans left on edge of stoves and ranges and with handles protruding.

Suffocation.

The following are some of the causes of suffocation -

1. Too high and too soft pillows for infants (low hard pillow, or none at all is best)
2. Pets (cats and dogs) gaining access to infants sleeping in prams and cots.
3. Adults sleeping in same bed as infants.

Coal Gas poisoning.

The following are some of the causes of this type of accident -

1. Coke etc. combusted in unsuitable fires.
2. Faulty gas stoves taps and connections. (taps should be of the kind which cannot accidentally be turned on)
3. Running of car engines in confined spaces.

Electrical Installations.

1. Faulty switches or connections should be attended to immediately by qualified persons.
2. Power plugs should either be out of reach of infants, or be of the safety type where it is impossible for fingers to touch live sockets.
3. It is very dangerous to handle any electric switch or apparatus with wet hands. For this reason, there should be no such switches within easy reach of a bath, wash-hand basin or sink.

